

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10

EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01

COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00

SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /152 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8916

ALL EC CAPITALS

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USMTN, USEEC

ACTION STR PASS ELECTRICALLY

STR PASS CODEL

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: MTN, EEC,ETRD

SUBJECT: EC MEMBER STATES' NONTARIFF MEASURES

REF: GENEVA 5474

1. EC HAS REQUESTED BILATERAL ON MAY 3 TO FURTHER COMMENT ON U.S. REQUESTS AGAINST EC MEMBER STATES' NONTARIFF MEASURES NOT BEING DEALT WITH MULTILATERALLY (NTM/NDWM), AS WELL AS EC REQUESTS ON (A) U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACT, (B) U.S. DUTY ON AIRCRAFT AND VESSEL REPAIRS (SECTION 466 OF TARIFF ACT OF 1930), AND (C) SEVERAL CUSTOMS PROCEDURES. TO ASSIST USMTN DEL, WE WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S GUIDANCE ON FOLLOWING:

(A) ROAD TAX SYSTEMS (BELGIUM, FRANCE, ITALY, FRG

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AND NETHERLANDS); DOES U.S. AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY EXPECT TO PRODUCE AND EXPORT SMALLER PASSENGER VEHICLES IN 1980'S AND BEYOND WHICH WOULD NOT BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE DISCRIMINATORY EFFECTS OF EXISTING EUROPEAN TAX SYSTEMS BASED ON VEHICLE WEIGHT, HORSEPOWER AND CYLINDER CAPACITY? WE ASK THIS SINCE CHANGES IN MEMBER STATES' TAX SYSTEMS WOULD BE COSTLY IN TERMS OF RECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS BY

THE U.S., AND WE NOTE DRAFT TPSC PAPER ON AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR OBJECTIVES DOES NOT MENTION THESE ROAD TAXES. SHOULD USMTN DEL PRESS ON IN SEEKING CHANGES AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY OR SHOULD THIS PROBLEM BE DEEMPHASIZED?

(B) JEWELRY HALLMARKING (UK, FRANCE, ITALY): AS NOTED REFTEL, WE HAVE VIRTUALLY NO INFORMATION ON THESE PRACTICES. VISIT BY ISAC 16 MEMBER FRANKOVICH WAS HELPFUL IN PROVIDING SOME BACKGROUND ON UK SYSTEM, BUT FURTHER INFORMATION STILL NECESSARY, ESPECIALLY RE FRENCH AND ITALIAN PRACTICES.

(C) MAXIMUM PRICES ON PHARMACEUTICALS (BELGIUM): HAS DECREE CITED BY BELGIAN DEL (SEE REFTEL) BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY U.S. PHARMACEUTICAL FIRMS MAKING COMPLAINT?

(D) PATENT PROTECTION FOR PHARMACEUTICALS (ITALY): IN VIEW EXPLANATION BY ITALIAN DEL AT OUR LAST SESSION AND CORROBORATION BY AMEMBASSY ROME (ROME 6945), SHOULD WE DROP ISSUE?

(E) PHYSICIAN'S "ROTE" LIST (GERMANY): IN VIEW EXPLANATION BY FRG DEL (SEE REFTEL), SHOULD WE PURSUE OR DROP ISSUE? IF WE ARE TO PURSUE ISSUE, USMTN DEL WILL NEED INFORMATION WITH WHICH TO REFUTE FRG JUSTIFICATION. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION.

(F) NORTH SEA EQUIPMENT CONTRACTS (UK): REFTEL REPORTED UK REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ANY SPECIFIC CASES OF ALLEGED PRESSURE. CAN THIS BE PROVIDED?

2. DELEGATION WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ADDRESSEE POSTS IN MEMBER STATES CAN PROVIDE. WE FOUND ROME'S REPORTING ON NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN ITALIAN PHARMACEUTICAL PATENT PROBLEM PARTICULARLY HELPFUL AND TIMELY.

3. DRAFTED BY MCNAMARA. CULBERT

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